

Seasonal Cycles – Resources for Teachers

Introductory resources

- Five Seasons is a fabulous short online film clip from Australian Screen: 'Every season has a song – and we sing to the Country which feeds us.' Excellent introduction to social seasons.

<http://aso.gov.au/titles/documentaries/5-seasons/clip1>

- The Breathing Earth is a great way to illustrate astronomical seasons. Images from space show the advancing and receding ice around the North Pole over the course of a year.

www.thisiscolossal.com/2013/08/breathing-earth

Indigenous seasons across Australia

- The Indigenous Weather Knowledge website at the Bureau of Meteorology contains links to several seasonal calendars from around Australia: www.bom.gov.au/iwk

- A comparison of several Indigenous seasonal descriptors with European seasons and months:

www.bom.gov.au/iwk/climate_culture/Indig_seasons.shtml

- 'Should Australia Have Five Seasons?' An article arguing for a fifth season, from *Australian Geographic*. Includes seasonal cycles from Indigenous groups in NSW, WA and the NT.

www.australiangeographic.com.au/journal/should-australia-have-five-seasons.htm

- Interactive Food Wheel of the Dampier Peninsula, WA – is an online interactive wheel from the Edge of Nowhere Foundation. It is an interesting tool aligning Indigenous flowering and fruiting food sources with seasonal names.

eon.org.au/materials/interactive-food-wheel

- The Seven Seasons of the Kulin People from Museum Victoria: 'Each season is marked by the movement of the stars in the night sky and changes in the weather, coinciding with the life cycles of plants and animals.' Two additional seasons are 'Flood season', and 'Fire season', which occur about every 28 and 7 years respectively:

<http://museumvictoria.com.au/forest/climate/kulin.html>

- An excellent article about the Kulin people's seasons on journalist Michael Green's site:

<http://michaelbgreen.com.au/kulin-calendar>

- An article from Monash University about the seasons of the Wurundjeri people of the middle Yarra region, Victoria:

www.livingwithnature.com.au/inspiration_middle.html

- An account of the six seasons of the Noongar people of Western Australia on the City of Mandurah site:

www.mandurah.wa.gov.au/13383.htm